FREE

MGW

Mom Guess What Newspaper

World Aids Day

December 1

Is Enough Being Done To Curb A Growing Epidemic?

469

Sacramento's Premier Gay & Lesbian Newspaper Since 1978

Volume 26 - Issue # 469

December 1 thru December 18, 2003

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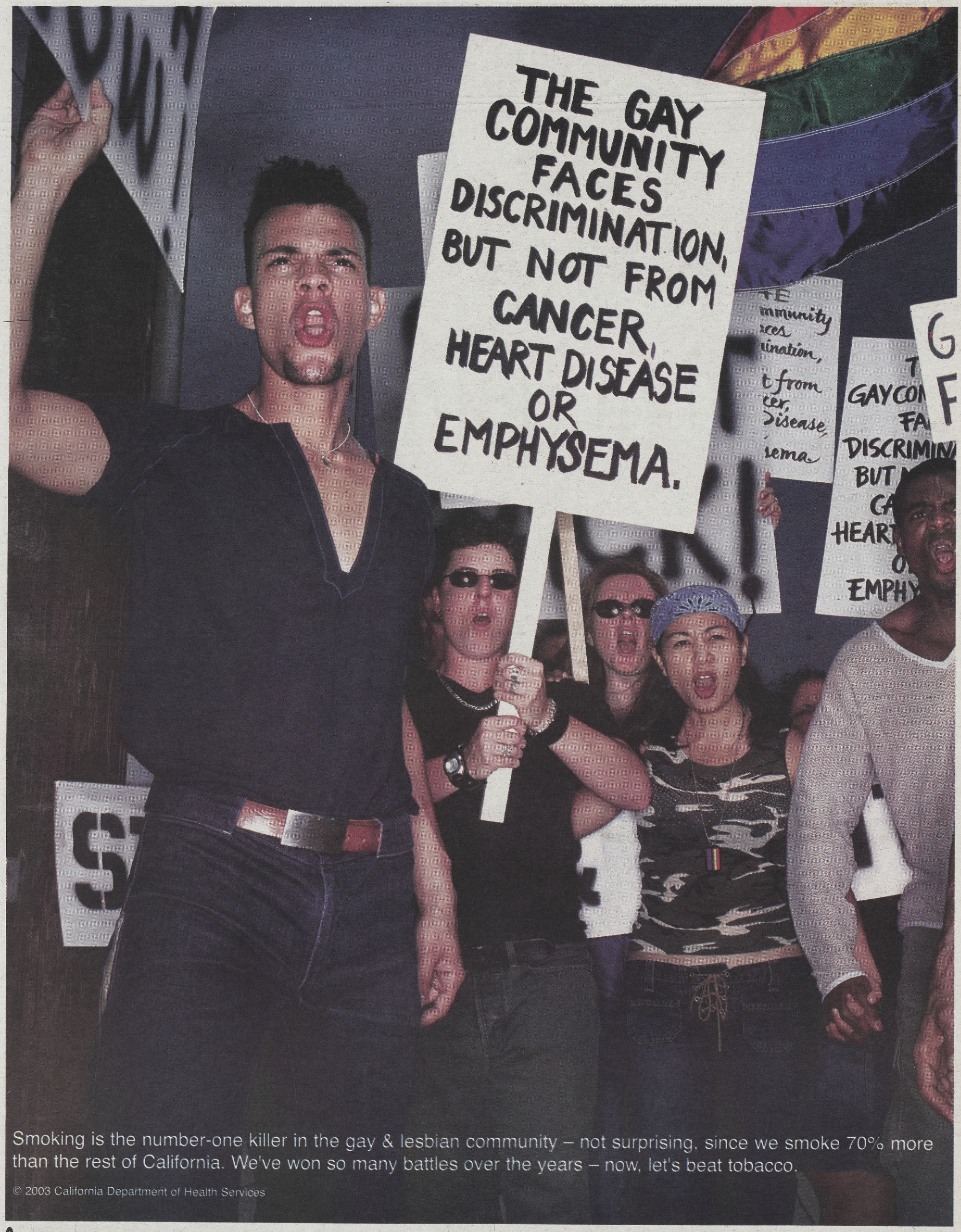

Smoking is the number-one killer in the gay & lesbian community – not surprising, since we smoke 70% more than the rest of California. We've won so many battles over the years – now, let's beat tobacco.

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World AIDS Day Takes Place While AIDS Flourishes Anew

As World AIDS Day approached, observances, vigils, and even a free concert in Cape Town, South Africa were broadcast worldwide to mark the occasion.

Meanwhile many in this nation's transgender, bisexual, lesbian and gay (GLBT) community are skeptical about the prospects of conquering the disease.

Even after a well-publicized trip to Africa by President George W. Bush, promised increases in funding to a continent being ravaged by the disease never materialized. Initial commitments of funds were pared dramatically.

Later, all funding for the initiative became hopelessly tied up due to demands by elements in Congress that all funding be devoted exclusively to abstinence-only programs.

In a speech before a crowd at the '46664' AIDS Awareness Concert, human rights activist **Nelson Mandela** (whose prisoner number 46664 was inspiration for the name of the event) declared, "AIDS is no longer a disease - it's a human rights issue."

Domestically, millions of Americans have seen their health insurance coverage reduced or eliminated and millions more have lost jobs and subsequently their insurance while local non-profit providers have seen their caseloads rise and their funding slashed.

Healthcare funding has suffered in favor of deep cuts in funding to help fuel tax cuts and the ongoing war efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"Healthcare is not a priority these days," said Vanessa Edwards Foster, chair of the National Transgender Advocacy Coalition (NTAC). "If it's transgender or gay and lesbian health, you can count on being at the back of the line."

Existing healthcare program cuts and a decided effort to keep funding away from scientific studies with GLBT subjects have painted a very bleak picture for the nation's queer community and beyond. With virtually all reports of HIV contraction rates on the rise in the transgender community, this World AIDS day appears to be the bleakest yet.

"Much of this within the transgender community can be attributed to lack of employment opportunities," NTAC's Foster said. "Anybody locked out of obtaining a legitimate income often must turn to an illegitimate one instead - whether selling drugs, stealing others' property, or sex-work," she added.

"Among chronically jobless transgenders, sex-work is viewed as the 'least victimizing' of the options. In reality, the sex-workers themselves most often become the victims."

Studies conducted by the University of California-SanFrancisco found high rates of HIV risk behaviors such as commercial sex work, unprotected sex, and injection drug use in a transgender community health study.

Participants cited low self-esteem, substance abuse, and economic necessity as common barriers to adopting and maintaining safer behaviors.

While the need exists for studies to identify communities at risk and to focus on addressing the health needs to avoid an epidemic, the recent trend by some in Congress has been to avoid funding any such studies dealing with sex.

These efforts, spurred primarily by **Rep. Pat Toomey** (R-PA), have been in absolute contravention to the mandates of Healthy People 2010, a wellness blueprint signed into existence by then-**President Bill Clinton.** This initiative is an agenda for addressing public health disparities, improving quality of health, and disease prevention and successful treatment.

To address this recent development, the National Institute of Health (NIH) has invited the public to comment on the implementation of a program to reduce and ultimately eliminate health disparities in the fiscal years 2002 - 2006.

"Despite tremendous medical advances and improved public health," said NIH Director, **Dr. Elias A. Zerhouni,** M.D., "medically underserved communities continue to suffer an unequal burden of illness, premature death and disability."

In order to address this and to ensure that all communities are served, the NIH is asking for participation from the public on the Health Disparities Research agenda. http://www.ncmhd.nih.gov <http://www.ncmhd.nih.gov/

NTAC encourages all to participate in the NIH effort by adding their feedback on this program agenda. Meanwhile, on World AIDS Day the transgender community laments what appears to be a return to the days of the Reagan era, when AIDS was still an uncontained epidemic. ▼

Founded in 1999, NTAC - the National Transgender Advocacy Coalition - is a §501(c)(4) civil rights organization working to establish and maintain the right of all transgendered, intersexed, and gender-variant people to live and work without fear of violence or discrimination.

Info:
http://www.ntac.org

World AIDS Day: Bush Record on HIV/AIDS

Earlier in the year, at the State of the Union, President Bush announced a sweeping effort to fight HIV/AIDS worldwide. He promised $15 billion over five years to help Africa and other nations hard hit by the epidemic.

Sadly, his actions have fallen far short of his rhetoric. And his unwillingness to provide similar leadership for the domestic HIV/AIDS epidemic will only lead to tragic consequences.

Less than a year after President's Bush promise of billions of dollars for Africa, Congress has already begun to cut funding. While $3 billion was promised for the first year, Congress, with the consent of the White House, has only allocated $2 billion. Promised funds needed just to keep people alive simply will not be there.

But while President Bush has the $15 billion promise as a cover for lack of an effective global HIV/AIDS policy, he has no such cover for our domestic HIV/AIDS crisis.

There are nearly 40,000 new HIV infections in the United States every year. One-third of all Americans who are HIV-positive don't know their status.

In the District of Columbia, the President's own backyard, it is estimated that one in every 20 adults is HIV-positive. In some wards of our nation's capital, HIV rates rival those of sub-Saharan Africa.

And what has President Bush done to address the problem?

First, he tried to do away with the White Office of National AIDS Policy.

More recently, he has left the office of National Director of AIDS Policy vacant.

He has asked for cuts or flat funding for a number of federal HIV/AIDS programs, including the Ryan White CARE Act and the Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS program.

But his policies are especially destructive when it comes to HIV medications for the poor and programs to prevent new HIV infections.

HIV/AIDS medications are effective but expensive. They can cost as much as $15,000 a year. And more and more people infected with HIV live in poverty and have no health insurance.

To help the poor afford the medications they need to survive, the federal government created the AIDS Drug Assistance Program, or ADAP. This program, funded with federal money and administered by the states, provides financial assistance to people living with HIV in order to buy anti viral medications.

ADAP has become an invaluable lifeline for the poor and uninsured. It has helped to guarantee that they will have the medications they need to keep them alive.

Now, however, President Bush has decided it is not worth fully funding.

Due to the record federal budget deficit, there is not enough money going to the states for ADAP. Now, many states have begun waiting lists for people who need medications.

That's right. People living with HIV/AIDS are being told to wait. Wait an indefinite amount of time to get the medications they need just to live. Wait and see if space opens up on the list or more money is forthcoming. Wait.

And what is President Bush doing while thousands upon thousands of people wait for help? He's not adequately funding ADAP. ▼

Info:
http://www.outfordean.com.

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LETTER E-MAIL CALL

GLBT for Dean

Dear Editor:

Our country was founded upon the notion of equality. But today in America, too many people have been left out of that promise. Equal rights under the law should be our guarantee to all citizens, but GLBT Americans are still not entitled to pension benefits, inheritance rights, health insurance for partners, recognition of domestic partnerships, the ability to serve openly in the military, and basic protections against employment discrimination.

Fortunately, there is a candidate for President who will be a champion for us and for the rights of all Americans. That candidate is **Governor Howard Dean.**

As Governor of Vermont, Dean put his political life (and more) on the line by signing the first civil union legislation in the nation. At the time, only 35% of his constituency supported the bill. He was targeted by threats of violence and was required to wear a bullet-proof vest as he traveled through Vermont, meeting face-to-face with the people who opposed civil unions.

He had the courage and the integrity to make sure that 'civil unions' became a reality because he believed it was absolutely the right thing to do.

Other candidates talk about gay rights. Dean has enacted them.

Dean has stood up for our rights. Now we can stand up for him. I urge you to join me, and millions of other Americans, in supporting Dean For America.

With your vote and your financial contribution, we can ignite the great grassroots campaign of the 21st century — the campaign that will restore our basic ideals of liberty, equality, and community.

Donna Red Wing
GLBT Activist
Field Advisor,
Dean for America

GLBT Supports Dean for President

Dear Editor:

In honor of national Coming Out Day, we are "Coming Out" as GLBT people and allies who support **Governor Howard Dean's** run for the Presidency.

When Dean signed the civil unions bill into law, Vermont became the only state in the country to guarantee full and equal rights for same-sex couples.

But, what's most telling about his support for out community is not the what, but the when: he signed the bill when it was hugely unpopular in the polls and in a year in which he was facing reelection.

He will take that same attitude towards equality to the White House. Not only does he support the repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act, but he will also put an end to the military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. fight for the passage of the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), give federal employees the right to add same-sex partners to health and other benefits, and provide increased federal funding for HIV/AIDS services and prevention (that isn't tied to the "abstinence only" programs).

As residents of New Hampshire, we see and hear from Presidential candidates much more than most of the rest of the country. Governor Dean is our choice, not just because he has done more to advance GLBT rights than any other candidate in the race, but also because on all others issues that matter to us we know that whether we agree or disagree, we are always sure of where he stands.

Please join us in voting for Dean in your state's primary, and even more important, get involved in the campaign.

Wendy Howell
GLBT Outreach Director

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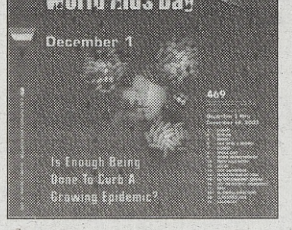

SACRAMENTO'S PREMIERE GAY AND LESBIAN NEWSPAPER SINCE 1978

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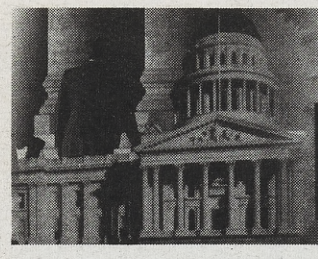

Under The Domes

ACLU Gives Lafayette School an F in Conduct

Louisiana School Punishes 7-Year-Old Boy for Talking About His Lesbian Moms

After a 7-year-old boy was scolded in front of his classmates and sent to a school behavioral clinic for answering another child's questions about his lesbian mothers, the American Civil Liberties Union demanded that the school expunge the boy's disciplinary records and stop restricting him from talking about his family with other students.

"I was concerned when the assistant principal called and told me my son had said a word so bad that he didn't want to repeat it over the phone," said **Sharon Huff,** the second-grader's mother. She added, "But that was nothing compared to the shock I felt when my little boy came home and told me that his teacher had told him his family is a dirty word. No child should ever hear that, especially not from a teacher he trusted and respected."

Marcus McLaurin was waiting in line to go to recess on November 11 at Ernest Gallet Elementary School when a classmate asked him about his mother and father. He responded that he didn't have a mother and father; instead he has two mothers. When the other child asked why, Marcus told him that it was because his mother is gay. The other child then asked what that meant, and Marcus explained, "Gay is when a girl likes another girl."

Upon hearing this, Marcus's teacher scolded him in front of his classmates, telling him that "gay" is a bad word and he should never say it at school, then sent him to the principal's office instead of letting him go to recess.

The following week the school required Marcus to attend a special behavioral clinic at 6:45 in the morning, where he was forced to repeatedly write "I will never use the word 'gay' in school again."

"To tell a 7-year-old boy that he can't talk about his family not only makes that child feel confused and hurt - it violates his Constitutional right to free speech and equal treatment," said **Ken Choe,** a staff attorney from the ACLU Lesbian and Gay Rights Project who is handling the matter. "At the ACLU we often deal with schools that mistreat treat gay children and children who have gay parents, but this is beyond the pale."

On a student behavior contract form that Marcus had to fill out and give to his mother about the incident, Marcus wrote that the thing he did wrong was that he "sed bad wurds."

A handwritten note at the top of the form from Marcus's teacher further explains: "He explained to another child that you are gay and what being gay means."

On a behavior report form signed by the assistant principal, the teacher wrote, "Marcus decided to explain to another child in his group that his mom is gay.

He told the other child that gay is when a girl likes a girl. This kind of discussion is not acceptable in my room. I feel that parents should explain things of this nature to their own children in their own way." The forms can be viewed online at aclu.org/LesbianGayRights/LesbianGayRights.

Of course we believe that parents should be the ones who talk with small children about things like sex, but Marcus McLaurin's school seems to think that he was talking about sex when all he was talking about was his two mothers," said **Joe Cook,** Executive Director of the ACLU of Louisiana. "The fact is that there are children of lesbian and gay parents in schools throughout Louisiana, and those children have the same right as any other children to talk about their families."

In its letter to the principal of Ernest Gallet Elem-entary School, the ACLU Lesbian and Gay Rights Project and the ACLU of Louisiana demand that the school remove all mentions of the incident from Marcus's disciplinary record and refrain from restricting his speech in the future, and offer apologies to Marcus and his mother. ▼

Info:
http://www.aclu.org/LesbianGayRights

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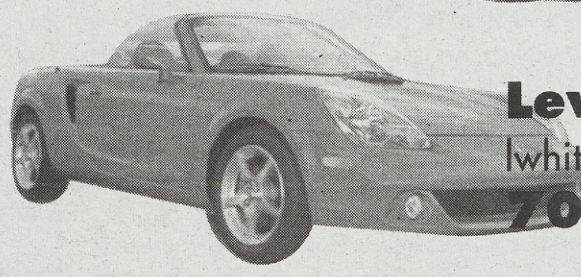

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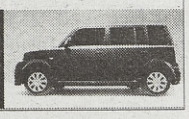

Guy Talk

By Deborah Frank
MGW Staff

Skin care is not just for women anymore! More and more men are flooding to spas for facials, waxing and massage. After all, men have skin too and the need for proper skin care pays off with huge benefits.

Looking healthy, minimizing wrinkles, fewer blemishes, obtaining a more youthful appearance and general good grooming is important to everyone. However, there are some gender specific needs involved and I will cover those here.

Over the past several issues of MGW, I have covered basic cleansing techniques that apply to both men and women. If you missed out on any of that information, email me at Deborah @daymakersspa.com and I'll catch you up.

Let's start by discussing shaving of the face. It is important that this be done correctly and as gently as possible to avoid razor burn and unsightly bumps, cuts and ingrown hairs. To sum it up, remember this: SHOWER then SHAVE.

The reason is twofold; you want to soften the hair follicles, which will facilitate easier removal and by showering first you avoid driving dirt into your newly shaven skin. You can cleanse in the shower but you must wait to shave until after you get out of the shower. Then, follow up with your toner and moisturizer.

Shaving should only be done in the direction of the hair growth, don't make the mistake of shaving in both directions as this causes irritation to the skin. Shave creams and gels have a tendency to be highly alkaline which is too harsh for acid-loving skin balance.

Try paying a little more for a shaving product recommended by a skin care specialist. I really like the shaving product made by Dermalogica, called "Professional Shave" because it contains an essential oil base with camphor to soothe and protect the skin.

A little goes a long way and it doesn't foam, but softens the skin and leaves it glowing with no irritation. Your skin care specialist can recommend something that will not harm your skin.

And, as long as we're discussing hair removal, lets talk about the infamous UNI-BROW!!! Men, this is not attractive! Get rid of it! Go have your eyebrows shaped; you won't believe the difference it will make in the appearance of your face.

The eyebrows frame the face, and while men don't want an overdone look, a little shaping does amazing things in bringing out your best facial features. Again, go to a licensed, skin care therapist at a reputable spa.

Discuss what you want done beforehand to avoid any problems, tell them you want the brows to look cleaner and shaped but not arched.

Another treatment for men that has a big payoff is eyebrow tinting. Done at the same time as eyebrow waxing, tinting can eliminate graying of the brows, which makes them appear as if they are literally disappearing.

As we age, this happens! So, having the brows tinted to more closely match hair color, subtracts years off the look of a man's face. Trust me, it takes 5 minutes and you will thank me.

Back waxing as well as "other" waxing has gained popularity among men and can literally be permanent if timed correctly. The pain is minimal and the result is fabulous!

All of these procedures can be easily maintained with regular visits to a Day Spa. Shop around; make some calls, talk to friends.

If you have never been to a spa for a 2 –3 hour pampering session, do yourself a favor! Expect to pay approximately $60 and up for a complete facial, $20 and up for eyebrow shaping and waxing prices vary with the amount of hair needing removal.

Prices will depend on the amount of extras included, so ask before booking an appointment. Relax and indulge. ▼

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LGBT Basketball League Nets Final Team Sponsor For Upcoming Season

Capital City Hoopsters LGBT Basketball League is proud to welcome OutSacramento.com as their sixth and final team sponsor. **Brandi Lee Baker** will serve as the team's captain as well as one of 8 players on her team. Other team sponsors and captains include: Faces (**Jerry High**), Head Hunters (**Mark Jacobson**), Club 21 (**Irma Alvarez**), Hot Rods (**Jason Bryden**) and Hamburger Marys (**Daniel Guerrero**).

The league has grown tremendously since it's inception in April 2002 when a mere 8 players showed up for the first open gym. The 2002-03 inaugural season featured 4 teams and a total of 28 people The 2003-04 season will consists of six teams with nearly 50 total players along with loads of adoring fans who show up religiously for games!

Next week's games feature 3 exciting matchups. At 7pm, Faces will meet Hamburger Marys. Defending Champion Club 21 takes on Head Hunters at 8pm and at 9pm Hot Rods will do battle with OutSacramento.

Games will be played every Thursday (except holidays) beginning December 4th through mid-March and the public is invited to attend at no charge. The league has also moved to a new location this season and all games will be played at Basketball Town in Rancho Cordova near Sunrise and Folsom Blvd.

For a complete schedule and more information, visit the league's website at HoopSacramento.com.

Mark Jacobson, Organizer
Capital City Hoopsters - Sacramento. ▼

Info:
http://www.hoopsacramento.com

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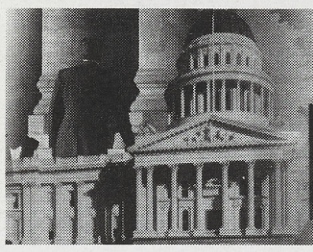


Under The Domes

Massachusetts Court Rules for Equal Access to Marriage by Same-Sex Couples

Californians Still Defending Attacks on Domestic Partner Rights

The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court issued a ruling affirming, for the first time in the United States, the right of same sex couples to marry under commonly held principles of constitutional law.

In California, a ballot initiative passed in 2000 sought to deny recognition of the very marriages recognized by the Massachusetts court, and the extreme right is currently actively seeking to overturn a new domestic partner law sponsored by Equality California that stops far short of marriage equality.

"Today's historic ruling in Massachusetts is an important milestone for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender civil rights movement across the country, because it recognizes that all families have equal value," stated **Geoffrey Kors,** Executive Director of Equality California, the state's GLBT civil rights advocacy organization.

The Massachusetts high court labeled the denial of marriage equality on the basis of sexual orientation "arbitrary," and noted that the "benefits accessible only by way of a marriage license are enormous, touching nearly every aspect of life and death."

Despite the fact that the new law does not create a legal status equivalent to marriage, it is under attack by two lawsuits and a proposed ballot referendum. Equality California is actively responding to these attacks.

"Marriage discrimination has significant harms for same-sex couples and their children throughout this country," said **Toni Broaddus,** EQCA Program Director.

"The Massachusetts decision recognizes the difference between civil and religious marriage, and acknowledges the obligation of the state to treat all citizens equally under the law.

In California, the state has not yet met that obligation, but we are nonetheless under attack for our attempts to protect LGBT people and our families."

Despite the historic Massachusetts ruling, the best legal protection for California couples remains the statewide domestic partners registry. Registered couples in California currently are granted approximately sixteen rights and responsibilities under state law, and if the new domestic partners law survives attacks against it, registered domestic couples will be entitled to additional protections beginning in 2005.

"In California, we will both celebrate the equality achieved in Mass-achusetts, and continue to work to achieve full equality for all California families." Kors said. "We believe that all Americans are entitled to the same civil rights, and Equality California will not rest until that dream is a reality."

EQCA is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, grassroots-based, statewide advocacy organization.▼

Info:
www.eqca.org

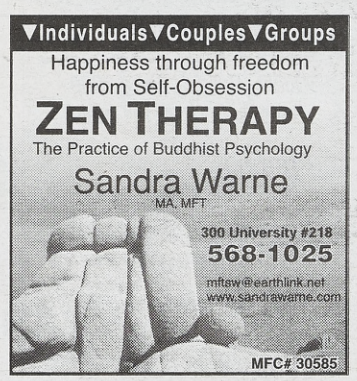
First To Pass Policy on Gender Identity Nondiscrimination

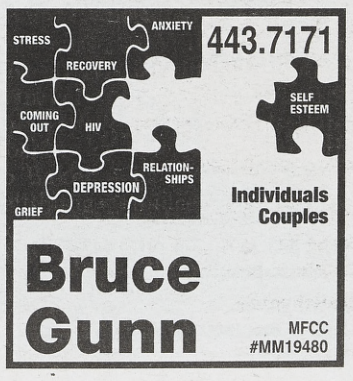
Last week, San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD) became the first school district in California (and possibly the nation) to approve comprehensive policy regulations on gender identity non-discrimination. SFUSD has long included gender identity as a protected category in their district nondiscrimination policy.

Why are comprehensive administrative regulations important? Passing a policy that prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender identity is an important first step. But many school administrators and teachers do not know how to implement such a policy, particularly when it comes to issues like bathrooms, locker rooms, and official school records. Administrative regulations clarify how to implement existing policy.

The SFUSD administrative regulation, R5163, was developed to provide clear guidance to school administrators on all of the above issues. The regulation reads, "This regulation is meant to advise school site staff and administration regarding transgender and gender non-conforming student concerns in order to create a safe learning environment for all students, and to ensure that every student has equal access to all components of their educational program." ▼

Info:
carolyn@gsanetwork.org
or 415-552-4229.





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Speak Out

By Ed Kelley

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Home Improvement

Is a Fixed-Period ARM Right For You?

By Jack Maple
MGW Staff

When you are ready to purchase a home, mortgage interest rates are an important consideration. These rates may affect your ability to afford a loan. Mortgage lenders recognized this problem more than 30 years ago and began offering adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs)

For borrowers willing to forgo the security of a fixed rate, ARMs with their lower initial rates can be a great home loan choice. ARMs are tied to financial indexes. At the end of a set period, your lender checks the index, and if it went up, so does the interest rate on the loan and the monthly payment.

There are usually caps on ARMs, ensuring the loan does not exceed a maximum rate.However, sacrificing the security of a fixed rate and a stable monthly payment amount is often difficult for those of you who are risk-averse. Now, there are products that offer the best of both loan types—fixed-period adjustable rate mortgages, also known as hybrid ARMs.

Hybrid ARMs offer initial periods during which your interest rate remains the same. Many lenders are offering fixed periods of three, five, seven or ten years. After the fixed period has expired, the rate adjusts just like a regular ARM.

Here are some of the other advantages a fixed-period ARM offers.

You may be able to qualify for a larger loan amount because the underwriting decision is usually based on your ability to make the first year's monthly payments—payments will be lower with a fixed-period ARM than a fixed-rate loan.

A fixed-period ARM generally offers a lower initial interest rate than a fixed-rate loan. During the set period — three, five, seven or ten years — rates may drop and you may refinance or move before the adjustment ever occurs.

If you plan to only stay in your home for three to seven years, or if you are frequently transferred by your employer, your home may be sold before the loan becomes adjustable and subject to periodic changes.

Hybrid ARMs are not ideal for all borrowers. Ask your mortgage professional to discuss this loan option and determine if it is the right loan for you. ▼

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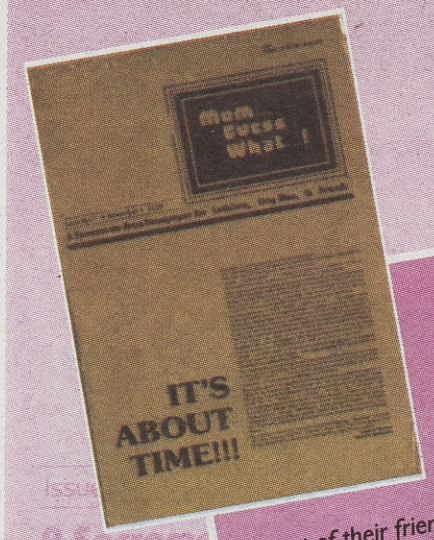


Issue No. 1 * November 1, 1978
It's About Time!!!

Hey Mom, Sacramento's got a new Gay Newspaper.

"MOM...GUESS WHAT...!" is a tabloid newspaper for women and men in the Sacramento Valley area and the Mother Lode countries who happen to be gay and fro their friends who happen to like sharing the enjoyment of their friends who happen to be gay.

"MOM...GUESS WHAT...!" is designed to appeal to the interests of a lot of nice people who may not know each other yet, but probably should.

After all, Sacramento's a big place. In and around River City there are thousands of Lesbians, Gay Men, and Friends of all ages and all walks of life who are not only interesting and unique themselves, but who are also eager to find out more about each other and about their many opportunities for social activity, recreation, and personal growth through involvement with each other.

Starting November 1978, "MOM...GUESS WHAT...!" will appear every month with local news and special articles of interest to the Gay community.

Among the regular features will be a calendar of upcoming events, a guide to entertaining places in the area, and a listing of social organizations and how they can be reached. Readers will be encouraged to communicate with each other in our classifieds ads and speak their own minds on community affairs in our letters to the Editor. We ant to be as accessible as we can to business establishments and social groups that feel good about their relationship with t Gay community in Sacramento and with to advertise in the paper.

"MOM...GUESS WHAT...!" will be distributed in the gay bars, restaurants, the Sacramento Women Center, other social places and will be mailed to individuals on a subscription basis.

Our readers are reminded each issue that publication of names or photographs of any person, organization and business in advertising and articles in "MOM...GUESS WHAT...!" is not construed as any indication of sexual orientation of such person, organization or business.

Pulling our community together both on a personal basis, and encouraging our readers to support gay business are the newspaper's primary goals.

November 16, [1978] we are holding an "input-brainstorming meeting" for people that would like to contribute to building a stronger gay community and consciousness here in Sacramento. We are inviting ALL readers to come and express their feelings about the paper. WE are looking for opinions, writers, photographers, typists, distributors, subscription-circulations managers, advertising representatives, artists, cartoonists, puzzles (crosswords, etc.), etc. The only way this paper will succeeds is if everyone contributes on an ongoing basis!!

So mark your calendars: "Input-Brainstorming Meeting," November 16, 1978, Thursday evening, 7:00 pm., Earnharts's Café, 1905 16th St. & S, Free Wine! Bring Friends!! Bring articles, art, photography, ideas for the paper!!

Linda D. Birner
David C. Weinerth

I write this column for Mom Guess What Newspaper's Birthday Anniversary Issue. A Happy 25th salute to a newspaper that if it were a sentient, corporeal, conscious gay entity, would be aged out of the "youth" category, and entering the awkward in-between that many mid-twenty sometimes find themselves in.

But I now find myself wishing happy birthday to a newspaper whose birth began (like many births do...) as whispered imaginings, a fanciful daydream, in a bedroom behind closed doors.

Now 25 years later, MGW is four years my senior, and after surviving staffing changes, the AIDS epidemic, eco depressions, wars, the near extinction of pendent media and the gallows of public ions and rumors is celebrating it's 25th ye existence, serving Sacramento's Gay, Lesb Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer, a Questioning community.

As with many things in this cosmic cy life and death, MGW was birthed 26 da fore Dan White killed Harvey Mil Francisco. The same month and year th Village People's single "Y.M.C.A." debut the billboards top 40, and just six days Californians went to the polls to defeat wing Proposition 6, a volatile measur would allow schools to fire teachers for gay or lesbian.

At a time when Sacramento's lesbian ar community was more bar oriented than cal, more closeted than not, and more f than proud MGW chronicles within i worn, dog-eared pages the transform of a small Northern California Gay munity into the vital, vibrant, po and proud community that Sacra

November Gay History Timeline

1969

November 2: A nationwide poll of 27,000 U.S. doctors finds that 67 percent are in favor of legalizing homosexual acts between consenting adults.

November 15: For the first time the Gay Liberation Front marchers march with a quarter million Vietnam peace protesters on Washington.

1974

November 5: Elaine Noble is elected to the Massachusetts state legislature, becoming the first openly state representative in U.S. History.

1977

November 8: Harvey Milk becomes the first openly gay elected official is elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors.

1978

November 1: First Issue of Mom Guess What Newspaper published, the first Gay & Lesbian newspaper serving Sacramento.

November 7: Voters in California reject the Briggs initiative, which would have banned gay teachers from the classroom. Governor Ronald Reagan denounced the initiative.

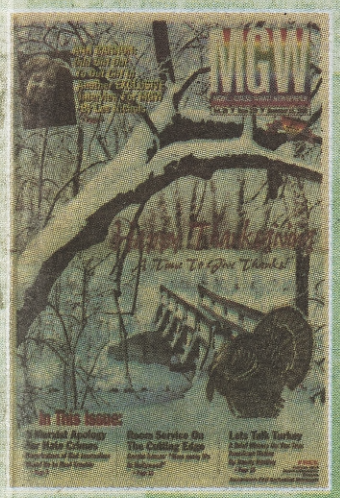
November 27: former San Francisco City Supervisor Dan White, who also kills Mayor George Moscone, assassinates Harvey Milk.

November 28: "The City Weeps"—San Francisco Examiner Headline

1979

November 13: San Francisco Police Dept. swears in its first openly gay police officers. Within

Now.... *Years* of History



boasts today.

When a younger version of, founder, executive editor, and publisher **Linda Birner,** founded this paper 25 years ago, she did so with the courage, strength, and a spirit of a revolutionary. She was a young woman in a time when the women's movement still fought hard, a lesbian, when it wasn't fashionable to be one, a business-women in a male dominated business culture, and a pioneer of freedom and equality for a group that often found itself invisible.

Birthed on idealistic notions and dreams of equality, seeking to provide a written voice, collective education for both the straight and gay communities, and act as a news-print bridge between the divided world of gay-men and lesbian women; MGW came to life on November 1st, 1978, born to those of a youthful innocence that dared to joke about the fantasy of one day being married.

And that is why I, a 21 year old, multi-racial, queer, boy, second-generation gay activist am proud to call Linda Birner my colleague and friend. Despite the wasp-swarms of stinging rumors, myths and gossip, when the physical manifestations of one's life work is documented with the successes and victories of the community MGW seeks to serve, and the tangible reality of progress can be felt in the air like electricity, there can be no doubt that this woman deserves my gratitude and respect.

I am humbled, as an activist, a writer, a dreamer and a seeker of change, for I only hope that my life would impact a fraction of the lives of those touched by MGW.

The question before me now, is, how do I, a boy of the spell check generation, queer youth movement, global justice and new anti-war movement envision the next 25 years of MGW?

It is within the pages of Mom Guess What that I find the history that connects all of us, who dare to think, be, exist, or co-exist off the straight and narrow. It is within those pages that I find the answers to why I could come out at 15, form a Gay-Straight Alliance at my high school, be part of a queer youth movement, and be proud of myself.

I often feel like an anthropologist uncovering aged relics of knowledge, the named bones of fallen warriors, and forgotten histories of a community a seek to call my own.

It is clear to me that I am part of the queer-activists of the next generation. A generation that knows nothing of funerals everyday, rumors of friends dying, the ferocity of ACT UP's political protests or the pain of finding ourselves before the internet and cable TV.

As a voice of the next generation, how do I provide an independent media publication that captures the chorus of voices that make up the here and now?

And I struggle often with the question of whether or not it is possible to create an inter-generational publication speaking to both those who founded this community and those just coming into it. A paper that is anti-racist, multi-racial, multi-issue, speaking to the diverse cross section that finds themselves in the alphabet soup of LGBTIQQ... and a news outlet that speaks to both the straight and not-straight communities giving a unified voice to an ongoing political struggle for equality and justice.

I often find myself doubting the possibility, but like was done 25 years ago, I can only hope for the best and give it a try. For if those who entered the struggle a the birth of the gay movement years ago, were told that gay-marriage would be legal in Canada, there would be a Gay Episcopal Bishop, California would have a Domestic Partnership close to marriage, high schools in California with Gay-Straight Alliances would be near 400, the new straight obsession is gay-oriented television shows, and that Sacramento would boast a vital and vibrant network of GLBT social, political and cultural organizations. I bet they would strongly doubt the possibility.

So, I am proud to announce MGW is now embarking on a yearlong birthday celebration, one that retraces the gay ripples in time, remembering history and documenting that being made. MGW announces a birthday bash celebrating 25 years...of documenting GLBT history; of struggle and growth, of victories and set backs, of progress and of the many casualties sustained along the way.

And I proffer humble words of gratitude to those who were before me, that your struggle is not forgotten, and to those who will be after me, the struggle is not over. I bid Mom Guess What Newspaper Happy Birthday and leave the words of a warrior-activist-woman-revolutionary from a time when busses were boycotted, sit-ins were a means of finding voice and songs of integration, freedom, equality and liberation filled the streets, Ella Baker, "The struggle is eternal. The tribe increases. Somebody else carries on." ▼

In solidarity and collective struggle, A hopeful voice of the next generation, And sojourner for freedom, equality and change,

Geoffrey Winder
Managing Editor, MGW

a year, one out of every seven new recruits for the department is either gay or lesbian.

1981

November 23: For the Tenth Time in a decade, the New York City Council refuses to pass a city ordinance prohibiting discrimination against gay men and lesbians.

1982

November 19: California Judge throws Marilyn Barnett's "palimony" suit against Billie Jean King out of court.

1984

November 3: Jack Haber, former editor –in chief of *Gentlemen's Quarterly*, dies of AIDS at age 45.

November 6: West Hollywood becomes the first "gay city" in the United States, after voter there decide to turn the previously unincorporated area in to a self-governing municipality and elect a largely gay city council to run it. With an estimated population of which 40 percent are gay or lesbian, the city council passes sweeping gay-rights ordinances.

1985

November 11: NBC broadcasts An Early Frost, the made-for-TV drama about a gay man with AIDS.

1988

November 8: George Bush Sr. defeats democratic challenger **Michael Dukakis**, in the United States presidential election.

November 30: Umpire **Dave Pallone** is thrown oft of the National League by league president **Bart Giamatti** because of his homosexuality.

1989

November 15: Massachusetts becomes the second state in the nation to pass statewide gay right's law.

1991

November 24: Freddie Mercury, lead singer of Queen, dies of bronchio-pneumonia, brought on by AIDS, just 24 hours after the announcement of his illness.

Something New For The Holidays: Raw Food

MGW Staff

As the holiday season approaches, many people throw healthy eating habits out the window. Tempted by traditional holiday treats, people often ignore healthier choices like fruits and vegetables.

However, according to the editors of the new book **The Complete Book Of Raw Food: Healthy, Delicious Vegetarian Cuisine Made With Living Foods** (Healthy Living Books, $25.00), there's hope for people who want to enjoy all the tastes of a traditional holiday meal and still eat healthfully.

"It's easy to incorporate healthier dishes into the traditional meal," says **Lori Baird**, the book's editor. Baird has provided Editorial Director for Healthy Living Books and is a frequently published writer on food and travel.

Adds contributing editor **Julie Rodwell**, a writer and leading participant in the raw food community "There are many healthy recipes out there that replicate the flavor and satisfaction you get from foods that may not be so good for you."

Raw foodists, who believe that heating foods above 115 degrees kills essential nutrients, eat a fully vegetarian and dairy-free diet, but the book's chefs have found delicious ways to replicate many traditional favorites, such as broccoli with cheddar sauce, lasagna, and apple pie—all without cooking or baking.

The recipe below, for example, is a raw gourmet version of one of the holidays' most comforting staples: sweet potatoes. "People who aren't raw foodists—or even vegetarians—should find this recipe a great compliment to dinner," says Baird.

"It offers the wonderful, familiar taste of sweet potatoes, without the heaviness. Also, the gourmet touch of offering this holiday staple as a soup will really impress your guests!" ▼

Info:
healthyliving.com

Con-Man Released From Jail

MGW Staff

In May of 2003, **Mom Guess What Newspaper** ran a story on **Erich J. Mathias,** formerly employed by MGW and Outword News Magazine.

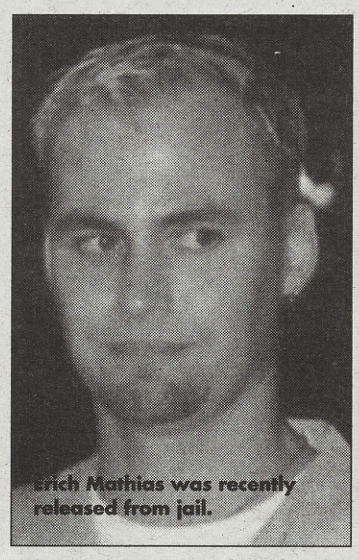
Mathias arrested in May 2002 by members of the Sacramento Valley Hi Tech Crimes Task Force, Mathias was originally charged with felony charges of identity theft and wire, mail and credit card fraud and has been sentenced in a credit card fraud case involving Outward Magazine.

Mathias' crimes led Outward Magazine to lose between $30,000 and $70,000 to unauthorized credit card use.

Mathias' duties at the magazine included graphic design and sales. At the time he was fired in December 2001 after the losses were discovered, Mathias was on probation from federal prison, where he had served time for fraud.

Mathias' sentence was handed down in late October by U.S. District Judge **David E. Levi** and after pleading guilty to one count of credit card fraud in a plea agreement five months ago, Mathias will serve 15 months in jail and pay $10,000 in restitution with a $100 special assessment.

He pleaded guilty in the agreement after the other counts were dropped, and reportedly has subsequently been released and is thought to be in the Sacramento area. ▼


Erich Mathias was recently released from jail.

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In the Waiting Room

By Sally Sheklow
MGW Staff

Colonoscopy. The blue sign's crisp white letters are medical, unflinching. A bold arrow pointing down the gray carpeted hall leaves no guesswork about which way we need to go. Go may be the wrong choice of words, considering that's all my sweetheart has been doing since she drank the required bowel-cleansing potion at 5:00 p.m. last night—that after a day of fasting. She followed all the prep instructions for her colon exam, bravely downed the broth, filtered apple juice, and endless glasses of water. I felt callous munching on my after-dinner Fig-Newmans.

My unlawfully-wedded wife and I arrive at the clinic ten minutes early to allow for bathroom time, which turns out to be a good idea. For months she's been dreading this, her first colonoscopy—or, as we've been calling it, her Butt-O-Scope. She's nervous even though it's only a routine exam, diagnostic care for the well-insured. Her employer doesn't offer domestic partner benefits—and we don't live in California, Vermont, or Belgium where the law requires employers to be fair—so I am not covered by her generous health care policy. Like every other lesbian and gay couple we know, we are rooting for Massachusetts, eagerly awaiting marriage equality and the equalization of benefits. We expect to see these changes follow a positive ruling in The Old Bay state, but for now, no Butt-o-Scope for me—a privilege which at the moment I am relieved to forego. Although I don't dare say relieved.

The clinic's automatic doors open for us, just like they do for heterosexuals, I might add. I'm fired up these days about the injustice and stupidity of the Federal Marriage Amendment and am prone to get testy about it. But today's priority is to get my girlfriend through her procedure with as little trauma as possible and I must stay on task. We quickly find the elevators. Sweetie gives a pained look, the elevator takes its time. She leans on me and whimpers "I feel like shit."

I recognize a pun when I hear one, but I keep it to myself this time. She's in no mood for joking. She hasn't eaten in more than 24 hours, and her innards are in overdrive.

The clinic's anti-discrimination policy hangs matter-of-factly on the wall in front of us. The phrase sexual orientation catches my eye. Nice to know the great queerasaurus wandered this sterile land before we got here. Activist clinic employees who roamed these polished floors in years past agitated for a policy change to include people like us. I'm grateful and recognize the risks they took in the struggle for equality. Thanks to them we're free to focus on our more urgent concerns, which, gauging by my honey's expression, are getting more urgent by the minute.

I think about the doctor and staff who will be handling my tender baby today and hope they are up on the policy as well as their colon examining skills. I hold my finger to the glass-framed document. My sleep-deprived partner, bleary from a gut-rumbly night, reads the words affirming our entitlement to equal treatment at this establishment. She cracks her first smile of the day. (Perhaps crack is the wrong word considering the tender state of hers after flushing all that liquid through her guts.) I suppose you can't blame the doctor for wanting an unobstructed view. Won't it make his day when he finds my darling's GI tract clean and clear as the Olympic luge.

On the third floor at last, the receptionist greets her morning appointments with magic words. "They'll come get you in just a minute and make you real comfortable." This is the talk of legal drug pushers.

Wifey smiles faintly. She completes the paperwork. The receptionist kindly wastes no time in pointing out the restroom around the corner. My darling heads right for it. (I guess it's OK to say head, now that one is available.)

My gal and I take a seat on an upholstered bench. It is hard and unaccommodating. This waiting room was not designed for people to kick back and relax. Nobody sits still here very long.

For months my sweetheart has been worried about going under the anesthesia. She read somewhere that sometimes you don't wake up, an idea she hasn't been able to shake. She's been anxious, imagining the worst. But now her angst has been dulled by the prep ordeal. She mumbles, "I don't care what they do to me." Wiped out as she is (I can't say wiped,) she has the presence of mind to tug off her wedding ring and hand it to me for safe keeping. I slip her ring onto my finger and where it clicks softly against my matching gold band. We hold hands. She rests her head on my shoulder. I stroke her hair. There's no closet in this waiting room.

A woman wearing a name tag lanyard strides over and introduces herself. "I'm Mattie," she says and holds out her hand. I'm thinking about that non-discrimination policy. Mattie clutches a clipboard, glances at it to make sure she's got the right patient. She sure is chipper at this early hour. Peristalsis hasn't kept her up all night.

"What relation are you?" she aims her question directly at me. My beloved is too groggy for answering complicated questions. Please God, or whatever force governs these things, don't let this be a difficult moment. Could we just for once be a normal couple, no raised eyebrows and no weird energy? I am not in confrontation mode so I put my trust in that sign by the elevator.

"We're married," I say, trying not to sound defiant. In any other situation I might launch into a tirade about discrimination, bigotry and homophobia. I'm used to explaining our entitlement to equal rights. But I'm in tender nurturing mode and in no mood for politics.

"Great!" Mattie grins. "OK if I put wife on her chart?" She is downright eager to invoke the non-discrimination clause. Colonoscopy: the great equalizer. ▼

Writer Sally Sheklow was born and raised in Palm Springs. She and her partner of 16 years accompany each other through life in Eugene, Oregon.

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Totally Sedated

by Stefan Gruenwedel
MGW Staff

John Livingston and Sabrina Lloyd

Dopamine
Starring: **John Livingston, Sabrina Lloyd.** Directed by: **Mark Decena.** (Rated R, 84 min.)

Love is really just biochemistry. People in relationships know they have a good thing going when they feel a "certain chemistry" between each other. According to scientists, dopamine and norepinephrine are the chemicals responsible for people's feelings of euphoria. Yet true love lasts beyond puppy love. Love is special.

Dopamine explores the pharmacological factors that affect the way we love one another and questions whether it's just special or something more specific than that. It's the old boy-meets-girl story with a modern twist.

Rand (John Livingston) is a software designer who works with two other guys in a one-room start-up company in the midst of dot-com obsessed San Francisco. Seemingly all day and night the trio develops and perfects a computerized pet, named Koy Koy, that displays artificial intelligence. The demo seems to impress the company's funders but it has to wow its targeted audience as well: children.

One day they bring Koy Koy to a nearby kindergarten class run by Sarah (Sarah Lloyd) to try it out on real kids. They fall for Koy Koy and Sarah falls for Rand, even though she met him earlier by chance and he seemed disinterested.

Dopamine raises intriguing ideas about the nature of love. Unfortunately, it explores them with such detachment that you wonder how they expect anyone watching the story unfold to maintain interest in seeing how things turn out.

The story meanders from one underdeveloped idea to the next—including a coworker's rivalry for Sarah and Rand's complex relationship with his distant father and his mother, who suffers from Alzheimer's. Even Koy Koy's days are limited as funding starts to dry up.

Odd as this may seem for a love story, any sparks that start to fly between Rand and Sarah are snuffed out by the coolness of their performances. Passion could go a long way to resuscitate this flick.

With location shooting in various parts of San Francisco—like the Presidio and South Park to the streets in midst of a Critical Mass bike rally—Dopamine will please anyone who likes to see familiar places on the big screen. But most others will send this experiment back to the lab for refinement.

Dopamine opens at the Crest Theatre on December 5. ▼

Info:
www.dopaminethemovie.com.

What a Drag

by Stefan Gruenwedel
MGW Staff

(Center) Charles Busch as Angela Arden

Die Mommie Die!
Starring: **Charles Busch, Philip Baker Hall, Jason Priestley, Natasha Lyonne.** Directed by: **Mark Rucker.** (Rated R, 130 min.)

Based on a play of the same name written by actor/playwright/drag sensation **Charles Busch,** Die Mommie Die is a no-holds-barred, deliciously vamped-up melodrama that sends up the B movies of Hollywood's heyday while establishing itself as one of their own.

Imagine Whatever Happened to Baby Jane? and Sunset Boulevard for the transgender generation. Busch plays a cantankerous, hotheaded singer named Angela Arden. She's a big star whose twinkle has long faded but whose wardrobe has not. And her hair just won't quit.

After years of enduring her insufferable manager/husband, Sol (scheming **Philip Baker Hall**), she adopts a well-hung lover, Tony (terrific **Jason Priestly**), to make her feel young again.

As if Angela's family wasn't dysfunctional already, Tony's entrance really stirs the pot. After Sol keels over one day under mysterious circumstances, the sex-magnet son (brooding **Stark Sand**) and "daddy's girl" daughter (spiteful spitfire **Natasha Lyonne**) suspect their mommy dearest and plan revenge.

The plot thickens, however, when Tony seduces them both without the other's knowledge. Hey, whose side is he on, anyway?

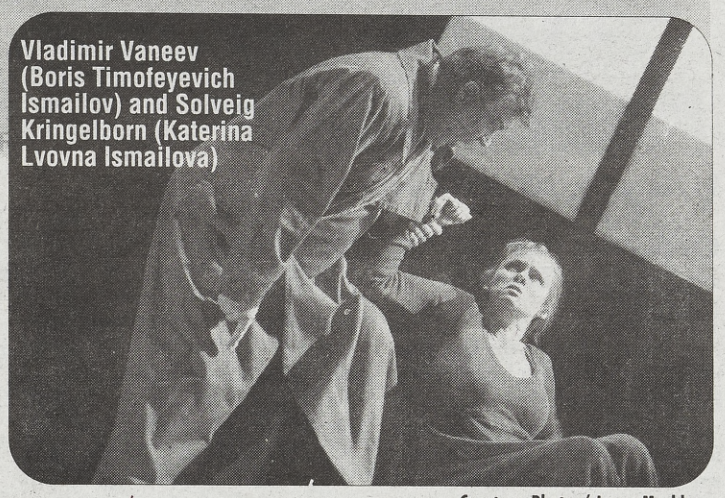
With its harsh lighting, bright colors, thriller score, and cheesy rear-projected backgrounds, Die Mommie Die has just the right throwback feel of a film mocking midcentury Hollywood.

However, the weakest link may be Busch himself. His Angela simply looks too young to be the mother of such grown children—or to be the withered has-been she's supposed to be. Worse, Busch's one-note performance only makes the generally good supporting cast stand out that much more.

It's to be expected that Die Mommie Die packed the Castro Theatre at this year's San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. That niche audience is already conversant in the conventions and language of drag and camp. Anyone who loves bawdy parody will simply eat this film up. But if you appreciate the finer points of comedy, despite laughing here and there, you'll probably find this melodrama too pointless for words.

Die Mommie Die opens at the Crest Theatre on December 12. ▼

Info:
www.diemommiedie.com.


Vladimir Vaneev (Boris Timofeyevich Ismailov) and Solveig Kringelborn (Katerina Lvovna Ismailova)

Courtesy Photo / Larry Merkle

Brilliant "Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk" at San Francisco Opera

By Wayne R. Anderson
MGW Staff

Along with the many unspeakable horrors unleashed by Joseph Stalin, his suppression of the arts stifled all Russian musical creativity during the twentieth century. No better example of this is the tragic case of **Dmitri Shostakovich**. Born in 1906, he showed brilliant promise very early. His second opera Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk, was a huge success when it opened in 1934, racking up some 200 performances during the first two years.

But in 1936 Stalin saw a production of it and stormed out after the first act, horrified at the dissonant music and the violent immoral story. The government expected music to be based on Russian folk songs and to be immediately accessible to ordinary people --- no modernism wanted!

Furthermore operas were to exalt the workers of the soviet state and have happy uplifting endings. Lady Macbeth failed on all these counts.

The opera was forbidden in Russia, and its composer went into an artistic decline from which he never recovered. Although he wrote 15 symphonies, he never again returned to opera.

The musical loss is enormous, since he originally conceived of Lady Macbeth as the possible prologue of an operatic tetralogy (like a Russian Ring), examining the role of women before and after the revolution.

The protagonist, **Katerina Ismailova,** is stifled in a provincial rural town where she is married to a well-to-do but colorless merchant Zinovy. What is more, she is under the constant eye of her brutal father-in-law Boris, who is disappointed that she and his inept son have failed to produce any children. And to make matters even worse, Boris is on the verge of trying to bed her himself. Katerina meets a young hunky worker Sergei, and they have a passionate affair while Zinovy is away on business.

When they are discovered in bed by Boris, she feeds him mushrooms laced with rat poison to prevent him from telling Zinovy. When her husband returns, she and Sergei strangle him, hide his body, and prepare to get married.

Solveig Kringelborn (Katerina Lvovna Ismailova) and Vladimir Vaneev (Boris Timofeyevich Ismailov)

Courtesy Photo / Larry Merkle

But when Zinovy's body is discovered on their wedding day, Katerina in her guilt blurts out a confession, and the two of them are sent to prison in Siberia. In the final scene among the prisoners, Sergei has tired of Katerina.

He coaxes her into giving him her stockings, which he then uses to buy sex from his new girlfriend. On seeing this, Katerina pushes the girl into the icy waters of a river and then jumps in herself. Hardly the uplifting ending Stalin expected.

The orchestral score is extraordinarily rich, ranging from dark brooding phrases to crashing dissonances to raucous brass band passages that seem to suggest that no matter how tragic things get, life is a just a big joke anyway.

The most evocative vocal music goes to Katerina who starts out willing to do whatever is necessary to take control of her fate (hence the Lady Macbeth connection), yet ultimately winds up ridden with guilt and finally a victim of Sergei's coldness.

The SFO production was brilliant.

Solveig Kringelborn, last seen here as Mozart's Countess Almaviva, sang with surprising thrust and power yet phrased the soft inward-looking phrases exquisitely.

Although she violently took control of her life, she did it to survive; her Katerina was never a scheming devil, which this character can seem. Rather her actions were an outgrowth of the brutality of life around her. When she fed Boris the poisoned mushrooms, we felt he had it coming. The audience greeted her solo bow with a much-deserved standing ovation.

Tenor **Christopher Ventris** as Sergei sang strongly and looked handsome enough to be believable. But when his shirt was off in the bedroom scenes, it looked as though too much borscht and vodka had passed his lips, detracting from his sexual allure.

Bass **Vladimir Vaneev** was outstanding as Boris. His powerful voice conveyed dominating authority, and his affecting acting revealed complexities of his character; after all, he is as frustrated as everyone else with his own miserable life.

All the others in the large cast were excellent and contributed importantly to this absorbing evening of theater. **Donald Runnicles**'s conducting was sensitive to the subtleties of this complex score. At times, such as the opening of the second act, he unleashed an overwhelming crescendo of dissonant sound, but the many soft introspective phrases were not lost either.

The costumes were as drab as the colorless lives of the characters, while the minimal sets consisted largely of huge geometric forms skewed at dizzying angles.

In the final scene, an immense projection of the frigid limitless Siberian steppe reflected the hopelessness of the fate of the prisoners.

This production was everything that gripping theater should be. But unfortunately it also made us feel ever more acutely the great loss that the Stalinist regime inflicted on twentieth century music. ▼

For comments or questions, contact Wayne Anderson at wayne.anderson2@comcast.net

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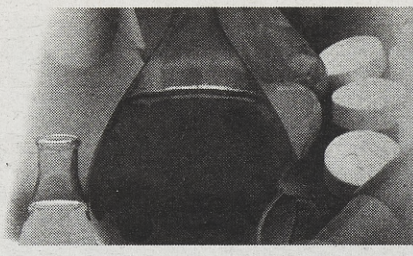

HIV Newsline
On The HIV Front

By Sonya Cox; AIDS/HIV Editor

Clear Proof that HIV Cannot Pass Though Condoms...

For the past 15 years, the European research commission has supported numerous research projects to study condom use as a preventive measure against sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV and AIDS. Projects have been conducted in Europe, Asia and Africa. The Commission recently announced that each and every study has concluded that the male condom is an effective way to prevent transmission of HIV, with nearly100 percent effectiveness when used properly.

One study, for instance, followed couples with one seropositive partner over 21 months. Among the 123 couples using condoms for every instance of vaginal or anal intercourse, no HIV transmissions occurred. Among the 122 partners who often used condoms, but not every time, 12 HIV conversions occurred. The consortium concluded that no HIV transmission occurs when condoms are used every time.

Another European Union-funded project studied 866 female European prostitutes. Their followup report, "HIV Infection in Female Prostitutes," concluded that those HIV infections that occurred were associated with the lack of condom use. The report also emphasized that petroleum-based lubricants can diminish the effectiveness of condoms. ▼

Activists Ask New Governor to Maintain Drug Funding...

Medical officials from Los Angeles recently called on Gov. Schwarzenegger to maintain AIDS Drug Assistance Program funding proportionate to the need. Schwarzenegger's budget proposal includes capping ADAP spending and creating a waiting list if client demand exceeds available funding. California's ADAP helps cover the cost of HIV and AIDS meds for those earning less than $50,000 a year. Since the number of cases in California is increasing, said the LA activists, capping the program could be devastating. There were nearly 133,000 people in California with AIDS as of the end of October -- an increase of 5,000 over the last 12 months. ▼

Nearly Half of All New Cases are Hispanics From Monterey...

Hispanics in Monterey County have accounted for nearly half of all of California's new AIDS cases since 1997, contracting HIV faster than any other group, according to the county Health Department's new HIV/AIDS report. Hispanics were nearly the only ethnic group whose share of AIDS cases grew in the past decade -- increasing from 25 percent to 44 percent. In contrast, the proportion of white men with AIDS has dropped 20 percent, and the percentage among African Americans dropped 1 percent.

Language barriers and lack of education and access to health care are among factors cited for the disease's spread in the Hispanic community. In addition, concerns over immigration status often deter Hispanics from getting tested and accessing care. ▼

Quick Testing Expands To Sacramento...

The rapid HIV test program will be extended to four additional California counties, including Sacramento, the state Office of AIDS recently announced. The program now operates in San Diego, San Francisco, Alameda and Sonoma, and the city of Long Beach. The rapid tests will be used at Sacramento's anonymous testing sites and by community based organizations that do outreach and HIV testing in communities at high risk for the disease, including Harm Reduction Services and the Mexican American Alcoholism Program.

The rapid test, called OraQuick, was approved by the Food & Drug Administration last year. It involves only a finger prick and a single drop of blood rather than a blood draw, and allows people to learn whether they are HIV-positive within 20 minutes. Use of the older test requires people to return to the test site in two weeks for results. Statewide, only about 50 percent of people who anonymously test positive return to get their test results. That can have doubly devastating results -ˆ they can continue spreading the disease, and they can severely impact their lifespan by not beginning treatment. The advantage of the old program, however, allowed counselors to prepare in advance for their meetings with people who test positive when they return for their results.

Under the new program, those tested will be given 20-minute counseling sessions to discuss risks of HIV transmission such as sharing needles and engaging in unprotected sex, and how to reduce those risks. But referral for treatment services will take place two weeks later when those who test positive return for a confirmatory diagnosis as required by state law. Nationally, 92 percent of those who test positive in the rapid test return to get the results of the confirmation test.

The expansion of the program to Sacramento, Los Angeles, Fresno, and Orange Counties is one of two statewide initiatives launched since last year to grapple with the spread of HIV, which is soaring among Latinos and men who have sex with men. The program, which will be expanded to every California county by mid-2004, also should boost the numbers of reported HIV cases in the state -- and therefore also boost federal funding to support AIDS programs.

Unlike most states, which use names to track HIV, California's system uses alpha-numeric codes. So far, the system has picked up 26,102 cases of HIV that have not progressed to AIDS, many are older cases, says the Office of AIDS. ▼

World Health Agencies Promise Money, Access To New Combo...

Three million HIV-infected people worldwide will be provided with the latest drugs by the end of 2005, say two United Nations agencies, potentially revolutionizing treatment of the disease. In marking World AIDS Day, the World Health Organization also certified a new, innovative generic drug combining three essential anti-retroviral drugs into one pill that is taken twice a day. The generic pills will cost people only $270 a year. WHO also joined UNAIDS in encouraging greater financial aid to poor countries. The joint initiative will improve drug distribution channels and train health professionals in poor countries. The agencies' detailed plan also focuses on establishing the United Nations as the global leader in fighting HIV, thus ensuring a reliable source for essential drugs and creating a system for disseminating the latest information on HIV.

WHO says that worldwide, more than 40 million people are infected with HIV and more than 3 million died in 2003 (over 8200 per day). They estimate that more than 5 million of them need anti-retroviral drugs, but fewer than 400,000 (only about 8 percent) currently have access to them. ▼

Numbers Escalating Despite Educational Efforts...

Britain. The number of United Kingdom residents with HIV climbed by 20 percent last year, says Britain's Health Protection Agency. About one-third of the estimated 49,500 infected people do not know they have the virus, HPA said. Last year's newly diagnosed HIV cases are expected to reach 6,400. Eighty percent of these folks were gay or bisexual. ▼

In Loving Memory of Friends Lost in December

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December 1985
Felix Oramas
December 1986
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December 1987
Ron Parsons
December 1988
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David Marus
Richard Vaughn
Ralph Trainor
Sylvester
December 1989
Bill Quinn
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Roy Frisch
Al Valdez
Bill Lemen
Stan Miguel-Ward
Wayne Rasmussen
Bob Ferrell
Bruce McDonough
December 1990
Jimmie Collier
Gary Batcher
Johnathan Francorcw
Willis James
Edward Lennane
Jim Nolan
December 1991
Stan Hadden
Father David Myers
Charles James Hribal, Jr.
Tommy Gossett
Leonard Wilcox
Gilbert Lopez
December 1992
Michael Patterson
Jim Graham
Michael Barrett
Jim Scaman
Margaret Coelho
Xavier Franco
December 1993
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LeRoy Davidson
Ed Walker
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Rod Ashley
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Kenric Brown
Michael Callen
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George Smith
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Damon Wilson
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Billy V.
Kent Hull
William C.
Bridgette R.
Richard Steven Sykes
Robert P.
Charles J.
Michael Mears
December 1996
Paul Arthur Young
Robert Kelly
Emanuel C.
Mike Smith
Verne B.
Eric L.
Roger Dale Helms
Chuck D.
Scott Deering
David Cannales
December 1997
Kirk Derby
December 1998
Jeff Smith
Michael M.
Cecil S.
December 1999
Reni O.
December 2000
Gary Shaw
Thomas Scott Mountain
December 2001
Keith Thomas ("Sammy Joe")

As long as you are remembered, you live!

To add the names of loved ones to MGW's remembrance column, **CALL 737-0309.**

For info about creating a NAMES Project AIDS memorial panel, **CALL 484-5646.**

Pets and The Holiday Season

Why is the holiday season dangerous for companion animals?

The excitement of gift-giving, family get-togethers, party preparations ... it's all too easy during the holidays to temporarily forget the needs of companion animals.

How can companion animals be protected during parties?

As most care givers of dogs and cats know, companion animals don't like change. Unfamiliar people, strange decorations, rich food, drinks, smoke, odors, noise, and gaiety can turn a companion animal's environment upside-down.

Add a few small children running around in the seasonal excitement and a dog may well react with barking, biting, digestive upsets, or worse. Cats will likely hide under the bed, but may streak outside while the front door is open, so keep an eye on them!

If a party is planned, it may be best to confine your companion animals in a quiet part of the house along with their comfortable and familiar bed blanket and toys. Or leave your dog at a familiar neighbor's or relative's house.

Indoor animals should never be put outside "just while the party's going." An animal accustomed to the warm house will suffer when the outdoor temperatures are lower than he or she is used to.

If your companion animals are nearby during a festive meal, ask your guests to refrain from "just giving them a little treat." Rich table scraps may upset a companion animal's digestion and result in vomiting or diarrhea.

If serving the traditional meals for the holidays, make sure those turkey or chicken bones are dumped in the outside garbage where your dog or cat can't get to them. And outside trash bins need to be secured against plundering by other outdoor animals.

Keep out of harm's way such party treats as chestnuts, peanuts, and candy (especially chocolate, which in large quantities can be fatal to a companion animal). Holiday plants such as poinsettias and mistletoe are also poisonous to animals, and should be kept out of their reach or replaced with artificial replicas.

And budgies and some other caged birds, if allowed out of their cages, may suffer ill effects from nibbling on Christmas trees.

Is alcohol dangerous for companion animals?

As with other drugs, keep alcohol away from companion animals. You'd be surprised how many cats and dogs will drink wine, beer, or sweet mixed drinks. Only a little can intoxicate a dog, and too much can affect his breathing, put him into shock, even cause his system to shut down.

Even if the dog survives, his system will have an unpleasant hangover to deal with. Keep alcohol — including those half-full glasses left over from the party — away from companion animals.

"Electric cords that light up the trees or other decorations can shock companion animals, and a chewed cord is a serious fire hazard."

What are good gifts for companion animals?

Gifts for companion animals should be considered from their perspective. A toy that seems wonderful in the store may be so small a puppy or kitten might swallow it.

A luscious treat contrary to a companion animal's accustomed diet may cause discomfort and possibly even disastrous consequences such as diarrhea, vomiting, or pancreatitis.

Instead, give dogs "practical" gifts, such as new collars or leashes, and treats such as dried liver, jerky bits, or home-made dog biscuits.

Cats can almost always use new scratching posts or litter boxes. And toys that can be easily batted about will stimulate a cat's natural hunting instincts.

How is a Christmas tree dangerous?

Puppies and kittens (as well as adult animals) often see the baubles and branches of a Christmas tree as an invitation to climb the tree, or pull at the branches or ornaments.

When decorating the tree, use only garland on the lower branches and keep fragile ornaments, lights, and tinsel up on higher branches. (When swallowed, tinsel can cause digestive upsets and intestinal blockage, it may be best to avoid it altogether)

A small latticework fence (available in the gardening section of hardware or discount stores) around the base of the tree helps keep dogs and puppies away.

Some chemicals used to extend the life of the Christmas tree are poisonous and lethal to companion animals, so even if there's no room for a fence, the treated area should be covered with a small section of window screen.

Electric cords that light up the trees or other decorations can shock companion animals, and a chewed cord is a serious fire hazard. Keep electrical cords hidden away from curious companion animals by routing the cords through special cord protectors, foam tubes, or PVC pipe (available at local hardware stores). ▼

Info:
api4animal.org

Information courtesy of the Animal Protection Institute.

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District 1: Roger Dickinson, 874-5485
District 2: Illa Collin, 874-5481
District 3: Murial Johnson, 874-5481
District 4: Robert Niello, 874-5491
District 5: Don Nottoli, 874-5485

Car Wash
Gem Auto Care, 5150 Freeport Blvd., 451-6524

Catering
Black Tie Catering & Gourmet To Go, 5451 Warehouse Way Ste. 114, 383-9270, blacktiecat@aol.com

Cemetaries / Mortuaries
East Lawn Memorial Park & Mortuaries, 732-2000

Chiropractors
Chaney Chiropractic & Rehab, Karen Chaney, Nancy Buck, 1614 X St., #B, 326-4466
James Carlson, Rocklin Chiropractic, 5875 Pacific St., #D, Rocklin, 624-0682

Churches
Cathedral of Promise MCC, 10500 Chaplain Ave., Matherfield Rd., 364-4325
Dignity, 2529 K St., 492-6452
Lutherans Concerned, 731-8887, 927-2624

City Council
City Hall, Rm. 205, 915 I St.
Mayor Heather Fargo: 264-5300
City Council Session Call-In, Cable Channel 73, 264-8255
District 1: Ray Tretheway, 808-7001
District 2: Sandy Sheedy, 808-7002
District 3: Steve Cohn, 808-7003
District 4: Jimmy Yee, 808-7004
District 5: Lauren Hammond, 808-7005
District 6: Dave Jones, 808-7006
District 7: Robbie Waters, 808-7007
District 8: Bonnie Pannell, 808-7008

City Parks
City Park Reservations, 277-6060

Dental
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Dry Cleaning Services
Freeport Cleaners, 2001 4th St., 442-2838

Electrical
Tom Seares Electrical, 284-9115

Financial Services
Killick Financial Services, 2321 Lloyd Ln., 486-8985

Furniture
Feather Thy Nest, 4747 J St., 737-2747

Gardening Services
English Garden Care, 489-8903

Gay Center
Lambda Community Center, 1927 L St., 442-0185

Glass
Bob's Glass, 2415 23rd St., near Broadway, 739-8244

Graphic Design
MGW Typesetting & Graphics, 1103 T St., 441-6397

Groceries
Taylor's Market, 2900 Freeport Blvd., 443-6881

Halls / Meeting Places
Channel 6, KVIE, Ose Community Rm., 2595 Cap. Oaks Dr., 929-5843
Musicians Hall, 1925 Del Paso Blvd., 565-2500
SMUD Building, 6301 S St., 916-732-5310

Hobbies / Crafts
Bead Fetish, 1927 L St., 447-7979

Holy Unions
Inn at Parkside, 2116 Sixth St., 658-1818

Hotels / Inns / Resorts
Capitol Park Inn, 1300 T St., 877-753-9982
Inn at Parkside, 2116 Sixth St., 658-1818

Information
MGW Newspaper Archives, past issues are available on microfilm at Lavender Library, Main Sacramento Library, CSUS Library, University of California at Davis Library, and San Francisco Main Library.

Jewelry
Arareity Fine Jewelry, 1021 R St., 446-1535
The Bead Fetish, 1729 L St., 447-7979

Massage
Certified Massage Therapist, Wendy Phillippe, 600-3270

Mortgage
Chase Manhattan, Rick Corby, 2998 Douglas Blvd. Ste. 105, 787-1429

Newspapers
Mom Guess What Newspaper (MGW), 1103 T Street, 95814, 441-6397
California Job Journal, 2033 Howe Ave., #100, 925-0800

Nurseries
Lotus Valley Nursery/Garden, 5606 Peterson Lane, Lotus, 626-7001

Optometrists
Dr. Cameron Yee, 6407 Riverside Blvd., 395-0673

Pet Care / Rescue
Animal Housecall, Dr. Nancy Weagly, 456-0967
Animal Place, 3448 Laguna Creek Trail, Vacaville, 707-449-4814
Clip Shop, 2631 A Riverside Blvd., 447-0393
Faux Paw Kennels, Adopt A Pet, 9204 Florin Rd., 988-6225
Fur People Pet Sitting, 457-1655
Happy Tails Pets, 556-1155
Labrador Retreiver Rescue, 209-951-3697, cc-labrescue.org
Watt Avenue Pet Hospital, 3321 Watt Ave. Suite 109, 482-4084

Real Estate
Charon Jenner, Cook Realty, 4305 Freeport Blvd, 763-1781
Pfingst Realty, 9978 Folsom Blvd., 362-1166
Craig Wetterer, Whisler Land Co., 446-6666
Mark Whisler, Broker, Whisler Land Co., 446-6666
Jack Maple, CountryWideRealty, (888)865-4834 x.282
David Rickert, Rickert Properties, 717.2188

Remodeling
Cherry Home Improvement, 933-0506

Restaurants
City Treasure, 1730 L St., 447-7380
Dos Coyotes Border Cafe, 1735 Arden Way, 927-0377
Greek Village Inn, 65 University Ave., 922-6334
Sacramento Brew Pub, Town & Country Village, 485-4677

Sacramento Info
MGW: mgwnews.com
Sac. Police Dept.: sacpd.org
Sac. Maps: citymaps.sacto.org
Sacramento.com

Shelters
WIND Center For Homeless Teens, Lynette Lyons, 300 Ahern St., 443-1386

Signs
Sign-A-Rama, 3017 Arden Way, 564-4299

Solar
The Solar Syndicate, 114 K St., 447-6419

Stereo Repair
Ray's Auto Stereo & Alarms, 1925 F St., 447-9753

Therapists
Bruce Gunn, MFCC #M19480, 418 Alhambra Blvd., 443-7171
Sandra Warne, MFCC#30585, 300 University Ste. 218, 568-1025

Thrift Store
MCC Out Of The Closet Thrift Store, 3230 Broadway, 454-5019
Sutter Hospice/Roseville, 2120 Harding Blvd., 783-5509

Translators
Access Language Connection, 1617 20th ST, 541-2300

VCR Repair
Ray's Auto Stereo & Alarms, 1925 F St., 447-9753

Veterarians
Animal Housecall, Dr. Nancy Weagly, 456-0967
Watt Ave. Pet Hospital, 3321 Watt Ave., 482-4084

Windows
Cherry Home Improvement, 933-0506
Forest Windows , 916-987-1931

CLASSIFIED ADS / BUSINESS DIRECTORY LISTINGS

1 the data...
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Address
City State Zip
Phone-W
Phone-H
Signature

2 the money...
Business Directory listings..... $ 15
Personal Classified up to 30 words..... $ 10
Business/Services Classified up to 30 words..... $ 20
Additional Words @ 40¢ each..... $____
Multiply subtotal by# ____ of issues..... Total $____
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3 the category...
❒ Announcements ❒ Men Seeking Men
❒ Employment ❒ Miscellaneous
❒ For Rent ❒ Roommates
❒ For Sale ❒ Services ($20 each)
❒ Freebies ❒ Wanted
❒ Lesbians Seeking Lesbians ❒ Other ____

4 business directory
Category
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Free Headline (2-3 words):
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Sacramento, CA 95814
Fax 916.441.6422
info@mgwnews.com

Classified Ads

ARCHIVE

GLBT HISTORY AT THE LIRARIES
Past issues of MGW Newspaper are available on microfilm at the main Sacramento Library, CSUS Library, and hardcopies at Lavender Library Archives, And Cultural Exchange tfn

EMPLOYMENT

DELIVERY DRIVERS!
Dependable drivers sought to deliver MGW on the 1st and the 15th of each month. Vehicle required, truck a plus! Familiarity with the Sacramento Metro area also a plus! $100 flat rate per delivery! Call or E-mail your resume and interest now! 441-6397 or info@mgwnews.com tfn

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Looking for a rewarding career where you're motivation equals cash!? MGW is accepting applications for Marketing & Ad Sales Executives. Applicants must be outgoing, energetic, go-getters and independent self-starters. Transportation a must, newspaper, advertising and/or marketing exp. a plus, but not necessary. Great Commissions! Start Today! Resume to MGW: info@mgwnews.com, 441-6397 tfn

FOR RENT

FABULOUS IN CURTIS PARK
Arts & Craft Bungalow w/ original detail! 2/3 bed 1 bath. Has central heat & air, wbf, large yard, great block (w/ some gay neighbors!). Walk to markets, restaurants, light rail, bookstores, movies, etc. $1,450/mo. 455-1537 x1201

FOR RENT

COTTAGE: CURTIS/LAND PARK
Modern garden cottage available to someone who is looking for daytime space. Greeat for artist's studio, writer, Ph.D. student or someone just looking for space. This is not a live-in situation (small bathroom, no shower, smale cube fridge, air cond/heat) Gorgeous gardens, small dead end street, friendly neighbors. Close to 21st St. & 2nd (near Swanberg's) No smokers/no drugs. $450. Linda 441-6397 tfn

PETS

ADOPT-A-PET
Faux Paw Kennels, Claire 988-6225, Mary 387-8811 tfn

CALLING ALL WORKING PETS
Pets: Do you go to work with your mom or dad? Mom or Dad: MGW Newspaper would like to feature you and your pet. Send us a photo with caption or call 441-6397 and we will take the photo! tfn

DACHSHUNDS RESCUED
Dachshunds need homes, all types. Pat, 925-2640 x41504

FIV+ FEMALE CAT
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SUPPORT GROUPS

ARE YOU WHERE YOU WERE A YEAR AGO?
Haven't come closer to making your dreams come true? Wan to make a difference this time around? A committed group sharing the pursuit of accomplishment may be just what you need. The 2004 'Goals' Support Group is now forming: bi-weekly meetings; goal setting processes, visualization/mediation, creative art/writing, discussions and more. Informal, fun, progressive and goal oriented. Meet new friends who'll support you in reaching your goals. Space is limited. Call 453-9443

VOLUNTEERS

WRITERS SOUGHT!
MGW is always looking for writers seeking to build their portfolios. Interested persons should send a cover letter stating their interest (including writing topics that interest them) and a writing sample to info@mgwnews.com or fax us: 916-441-6422 tfn

PHOTOGRAPHERS NEEDED
MGW is looking for photographers of all levels to join MGW's staff photographers on keeping the images of Sacramento coming. We pay for film and development! If interested, please e-mail a cover letter to MGW at info@mgwnews.com or fax 916-441-6422 and set up a time to come by with a sample of your work! tfn

DECEMBER

3 WEDNESDAY

FIRST STAGES, First Stages Youth Group, 8-9pm; Youth With HIV Youth Group, Lambda Center, 442-0185

SCIENCE FICTION BK CLB, Open Book, 6pm; 910 21st St, 498-1004

SAC VAL BEARS MEETING, Sacramento Valley Bears, Club 21, 1121 21st St, 373-4748

4 THURSDAY

LBT WOMEN CONNECTING, Wyndance Center, 7-8:30pm; 2400 Glendale Ln, 973-2838

CROCKER BOOK CLUB, Crocker Art Museum, 6pm; 216 O St., 264-5423

TEA AROUND THE TREE, Crocker Art Museum, 1pm; 216 O St., 264-5423

5 FRIDAY

ARTISTS "FIGHT NIGHT" fighting homophobia in Sacramento. 6-10PM Uptown Studios, 912 1/2 J St. (916) 446-1082

Café Lambda 9:00 PM till Midnight. Lambda Community Center

6 SATURDAY

MALAKOFF RIM TRAIL DAY HIKLE, Gay & Lesbian Sierrans, 925-7590

TREBOR HEALEY APPEARANCE, Open Book, 7pm; 910 21st St, 498-1004

CROCKER BALL, Crocker Art Museum, 6:30pm; 216 O St., 264-5423

CAFÉ LAMBDA, 9:00 PM till Midnight. Lambda Community Center

PAWS HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE AND FUND-RAISER to build new home for 3 Tiger Cubs. 11:30AM – 2:00PM all ages, 3-5PM 21 and over enjoy festive food and beverage. Contact Pat Derby at (209) 745-2606

7 SUNDAY

CALIFORNIA INTERNATIONAL MARATHON, 7am; Folsom Dam to State Capitol, 443-6223

DAVIS BIKE RIDE & BRUNCH, Gay & Lesbian Sierrans, 736-1430

PANCAKE BREAKFEAST, Sacramento Valley Leathermen, morning; Faces Nightclub, 20th & K St., 801-2519

11 THURSDAY

LBT WOMEN CONNECTING, Wyndance Center, 7-8:30pm; 2400 Glendale Ln, 973-2838

12 FRIDAY

DINING OUT W/ GLS, Gay & Lesbian Sierrans, 925-7590

REVA CAMEILLE APPEARANCE, Open Book, 7pm

CAFÉ LAMBDA, 9:00 till Midnight. Lambda Community Center

SFJAZZ HOLIDAY CONCERT, San Francisco's Masonic Auditorium, 8:00 PM, (415) 776-1999

DAVIS FOOD CO-OP Wine Tasting 6-8PM. 620 G Street Downtown Davis. (530) 758-2095 ext. 39ok, 7pm; 910 21st St, 498-1004

HOLIDAY CONCERT W/ THE BLIND BOYS OF ALABAMA (Special guests Aaron Neville & John Medeski), 8 pm, Masonic Auditorium at California & Taylor Sts, SF, Tickets $25-55., 415-776-1999 or www.sfjazz.org

LECTURE "THE IMPORTANCE OF WELLNESS," Kathy Martinez, CSUS Instructor, Life Center Forums, 12:30 pm at Julia Morgan House, 3731 T St. 227-5518

MIDDLE AGE ROCKERS, Garbeau's Dinner Theatre, 939-0824

PROCLAIMING A FEMINIST MANIFESTA, 8 am – 5 pm, 105 North Hall Women's Resources & Research Ctr. UC Davis Campus (Display) 530-752-3372

13 SATURDAY

CAFÉ LAMBDA. 9:00 pm till Midnight. Lambda Community Center

DRAWING FOR ADULTS, Crocker Art Museum, 10:30 am -12:30 pm, Icons or Portraits, 210 O St. 264-5423

GOVERNOR'S MANSION OPEN HOUSE, Decorated for the Holidays, 10 am – 4 pm, corner of 16th & H Sts. Downtown Sacto, 323-0096

HOLIDAY MAGIC AT THE SACRAMENTO ZOO, Santa delivers treats to the animals, 10 am – 4 pm, General Admission $7.25 & $5. ages 3-12. Bring a new unwrapped toy and receive a FREE admission to the zoo for one child. Parking free. 264-5888 or www.saczoo.com

LESBIAN HEALTH RESEARCH CTR @ UCSF FUND RAISER BENEFIT, Holiday Gala Dinner/Dance/Concert,, 6 pm – 1 am, Ramada Plaza International Hotel, 1231 Market St. SF, 415-502-5209 or www.lesbianhealthinfo.org

METALPHORIA: A Feeling of Great Pleasure Induced by the Act of Playing with Metal, Opening Reception on 2nd Sat. 6 – 10 pm, Gizomi Coffee & Art House, 1122 Del Paso Blvd. 457-8616

PROGRESSIVE HOLIDAY DINNER, Dykes Out Together, 4 pm, 361-1495

RATTLESNAKE DAY HIKE, Gay & Lesbian Sierrans, 530-889-8652

14 SUNDAY

AMERICAN RIVER BIKE RIDE, Gay & Lesbian Sierrans, 10 am, 359-8076

BACW HOLIDAY PARTY at Lisa Aronzon's Glass Studio.12-3 pm at 2690 Union Street, Oakland

GOVERNOR'S MANSION OPEN HOUSE, Decorated for the Holidays, 10 am – 4 pm, corner of 16th & H Sts. Downtown Sacto, 323-0096

PRE-KWANZAA CELEBRATION, Crocker Art Museum, 1-3 pm, 216 O St. 264-5423

SOPHIA'S CIRCLE, a special service expressing the feminine face of God. 10:30 am at Parkside Community Church United Church of Christ. 5700 S. Land Park Dr. and 35th Ave. 421-0492

"WINTERSONGS WITH KITKA," 4 pm, Trinity Cathedral, 2620 Capitol Ave., 444-0323 or www.kitka.org

WOMEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, Sundays 6-7:30 pm, Lambda Community Center, 442-0185 or womencomingout@lambdasac.org

17 WEDNESDAY

A HOLIDAY EVENING AT THE TOWE AUTO MUSEUM, 5:30 – 7:30 pm, 2200 Front St., $20 members/22. non-members, RSVP to (by Dec 10) 558-3751

18 THURSDAY

LBT WOMEN CONNECTING, Wyndance Center, 7-8:30 pm, 2400 Glendale Ln, 973-2838

SPOTLIGHT TOUR, Crocker Art Museum, 6:30 pm, Portraits, Imagery & Iconography, 216 O St. 264-5423

THIRD THURSDAY JAZZ, Ivan Najera, Guitar, 5:30 pm, Crocker Art Museum,, 216 O St. 264-5423

19 FRIDAY

CAFÉ LAMBDA. 9:00 PM till Midnight. Lambda Community Center

20 SATURDAY

ARTBLAST: Ornaments Galore! All ages, Crocker Art Museum, Noon-3 pm, 216 O St. 264-5423

QUEER PERFORMANCE Open Mike at LLACE. 7:00 pm. 1414 21st Street

Lambda Christmas Celebration 7:30 pm. Lambda Community Center

SOLSTICE SOCIAL, Gay & Lesbian Sierrans, 5-9 pm, 359-8076

21 SUNDAY

FISH HATCHERY BIKE RIDE, Gay & Lesbian Sierrans, 393-4094

WOMEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, Sundays 6-7:30 pm, Lambda Community Center, 442-0185 or womencomingout@lambdasac.org

22 MONDAY

SACRAMENTO OCD (Obsessive Compulsive Disorder) Support Group Mtg. 7 – 9 pm (every 2nd & 4th Mon.), 7700 Folsom Blvd. 456-1996

23 TUESDAY

MALE NUDISTS MEETING, Men Au Naturale Sac. (MANS); mans-ca@yahoogroups.com

24 WEDNESDAY

KUNG PAO KOSHER COMEDY, Dec 24-27, New Asia Restaurant, SF, 415-522-3737

25 THURSDAY

KUNG PAO KOSHER COMEDY, Dec. 24-27, New Asia Restaurant, 772 Pacific Ave. (Grant/Stockton in Chinatown), SF, 415-522-3737

26 FRIDAY

CAFÉ LAMBDA. 9:00 PM till Midnight. Lambda Community Center

JOSEPH GOLD, VIOLIN & JAUME TORRENT, GUITAR, Crocker Art Museum, 3 pm, 216 O St. 264-5423

27 SATURDAY

CAFÉ LAMBDA. 9:00 pm till Midnight. Lambda Community Center

KUNG PAO KOSHER COMEDY, Dec. 24-27, New Asia Restaurant, 772 Pacific Ave. (Grant/Stockton in Chinatown), SF, 415-522-3737

SNOWSHOE HIKE, Gay & Lesbian Sierrans, 421-6209

28 SUNDAY

WOMEN'S COMING OUT GROUP, Sundays 6-7:30 pm, Lambda Community Center, 442-0185 or womencomingout@lambdasac.org

ART GALLERIES

20th St. ART GALLERY; "Best Works: New Works & Selected Works From Past Shows" w/ 40 Artists, Dec. 10-24th 12 – 5 pm, reception Dec 13, 6 to 9:30 pm; 911 20th St, 930-0500

ATMOSPHERE HOME; 2122 J St, 446-4054

BACW (Bay Area Community of Women); Holiday Party at Lisa Aronson's Glass Studio w/ Hands On Glass Blowing Demo,, Dec. 14 Noon – 3 pm; 2690 Union St., Oakland, www.bacw.org

CA. PALACE OF THE LEGION OF HONOR; "Reverie and Reality, 19th Century Photographs of India" thru Feb 15, '04; 100 34th Ave, SF, (415) 750-3620

CHROMA GALLERY; "Little Gems," Dec. 13- Feb. 8, 04, reception Dec. 13, 4 – 9 pm; 10030 Fair Oaks Blvd. Fair Oaks; thechromagallery.com

CROCKER ART MUSEUM; "High Tea Around the Holiday Tree," Dec. 4, 1 pm; "Gallery Drawing for Adults: Icons or Portraits?" Dec. 13, 10:30 am – 12:30 pm; "Spotlight Tour: Portraits, Imagery & Iconography," Dec. 18, 6:30 pm;"Icons or Portraits? Images of Jesus and Mary," from the collection of Michael Hall, Nov 8- Jan 18 '04, "Knock on Wood," sculpture by Michael Steven, Nov 21- Feb 8'04; 216 'O' St, 264-1178

EXPLODING HEAD GALLERY; "M/M" a mixed media exhibition, Dec. 11 – Jan 3, '04, reception Dec. 13, 6 – 9 pm, 924 12th St., 442-8424

JOHN NATSOULAS GALLERY; "Paintings & Works on Paper" by Joan Brown, "New Paintings" by Deborah Hamon, "Works on Paper" by Wayne Thiebaud, Dec. 3 – 28, reception Dec. 6, 7 – 9 pm; 521 First St, Davis, (530) 756-3938

PHOENIX GALLERY; 1901 Capitol Ave 447-1632

LA RAZA GALERIA POSADA, "Nuestra Comida (Our Food),"Carlota Duarte, Nov 14-Dec 20, Reception Nov.14 & Dec 13 6-9pm, "Undanted By Death," Craig Martinez, thru Nov 8, reception Nov 8 6-9pm; 704 O St, 446-5133

MUSEUM OF GLBT HISTORY; Saint Harvey: The Life and Afterlife of a Modern Gay Martyr, thru April 4, '04, 657 Mission St., www.glbthistory.org

SACRAMENTO FINE ARTS CENTER; ; 5330-B Gibbons Dr, Carmichael; 971-3713

SF MOMA; Sculpture; "Sex in Asia," Reagan Louie, thru-Jan. 11,'04, John Dickinson; thru March 7, '04, "Revelations", Diane Arbus, Oct. 25-Feb. 8,'04; Romare Bearden, Feb 7-May 16,'04; 151 3rd St., SF; (415) 357-4000

SOLOMON DUBNICK; 2131 Northrup Ave., 923-6204

TOWE AUTO MUSEUM; "Cadillac Centennial 1903-2003", thru Dec 31st; 2200 Front St.

TOWER FRAMING & DESIGN GALLERY; 2131 Northrop, Suite B, 923-6204

UC DAVIS – WOMEN'S RESOURCES & RESEARCH CENTER; "Proclaiming A Feminist Manifesta," works ranging from spoken word to paintings, thru Dec. 12, 8 am – 5 pm; North Hall, UCD, 530-752-3372 or wrrc.ucdavis.edu

UP TOWN STUDIOS; "Fight Knight," fighting homophobia in Sacramento, reception Dec. 5, 6 – 10 pm ; 912 1/2 J St.; 446-1082

SUBMITTING CALENDAR ITEMS

Calendar items should be typewritten and received at least two weeks before publication. Event sponsors must be nonprofit organizations.

Please include:
- Name of the event
- Times and dates
- Event location and address
- Name of sponsoring organization
- Phone numbers and URL's

The Calendar is provided as a community service and is subject to editor's discretions and availability of space. Photos may be submitted; please mail prints with SASE or E-mail hi-resolution (300 dpi) JPEGs, TIFs, or PDFs.

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Craftsman Bungalow in the heart of Midtown
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For more information, please contact Brian McMartin at 916.447.1880

Bamboo Terrace in Midtown
A tastefully updated cottage in the heart of Midtown Sacramento! This Midtown cottage contains the quaintness of an early 20th Century home with all the modern amenities. The home contains: 2 bedrooms and 2 updated baths; hardwoods grace the living room of this adorable cottage; updated kitchen; and skylights keep this home well lit. Gorgeous Tier Decking in the back. One block from R Street Corridor & 1/2 Block from RT Light Rail! Make "Bamboo Terrace" yours today!
For more information, please contact Brian McMartin at 916.447.1880

Private In-Town Oasis
This home has been well maintained but needs updating to be revitalized. Country-like feel in this area off Pocket Road, yet with easy access to everything. Seller to provide clear pest/2 year roof cert/1 year home warranty and swimming pool in working order (Gas heater will be removed). Huge landscaped lot.
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